

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 SS-15 NEAE-00 /033 W

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P R 031255Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9015

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 7308

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: HARCOS/FLETCHER

REF: NEW DELHI 7242

1. POLCOUNSELOR SPOKE WITH HAIDER (PM'S SECRETARIAT) JUNE 2. HAIDER SAID HE HAD LEARNED THAT THE GOI HOME MINISTRY IN ITS DIRECTIVE TO THE GOWB (AS CONGEN CALCUTTA SPECULAED, NEW DELHI 7175) HAD ONLY STATED IN HAD "NO OBJECTION" TO THE DEFENDANTS CHANGING THEIR PLEA. THIS HAD LEFT THE CAT FOR THE GOWB TO "BELL" AND HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTINUING DELAYS AT THE CALCUTTA END. THE CHIEF MINISTER'S PRIVATE SECRETARY HAD TOLD HAIDER THAT IF THE GOI WANTED THE GROUNDS FOR TRIAL SHIFTED, IT SHOULD HAVE INSTRUCTED THE GOWB TO DO SO. HAIDER CONFIRMED THAT THE GOWB CHIEF PROSECUTOR WISHED TO CONTINUE THE "OFFICIAL SECRETS" CASE, BUT THE GOWB ADVOCATE GENERAL HAD NOW GIVEN HIS OWN RECOMMENDATION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER WHO HAD "DECIDED TO TAKE A DECISION." HAIDER SAID HE HAD TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY ALL DAY JUNE 1 TO GET THROUGH TO THE CM'S SECRETARY IN CALCUTTA TO FIND OUT WHAT THE CM WAS PLANNING TO DO AND WOULD TRY TO GET A CLEAR READING THIS WEEK. AFTER THIS, HAIDER SAID, HE WOULD BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO KNOW WHETHER THE PM'S SECRETARIAT WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE HOME MINISTRY TO SEND A SPECIFIC DIRECTIVE TO THE GOWB WITH DROP THE "OFFICIAL SECRETS" CHARGE, AS OPPOSED TO THE PRESENT OPEN OPTION TO DO SO. HE SAID HIS VIEW AND THAT THE PM'S SECRETARY, P.N. DHAR, WAS CLEAR AND HAD BEEN PASSED TEN DAYS AGO AGAIN TO THE CM'S PRIVATE SECRETARY: THE CASE SHOULD

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BE PUT OUT OF THE WAY ONCE AND FOR

ALL. IF THE "OFFICIAL SECRETS"

TRIAL CONTINUED, IT COULD GO ON FOR ANTHHER YEAR OR TWO AND THIS  
WAS SIMPLY NOT TOLERABLE.

2. POLCOUNSELOR AGREED HEARTILY WITH HAIDER'S FINAL CONCLUSION.  
HAIDER SAID HE WOULD LET THE EMBASSY KNOW IN THE NEXT DAY OR  
TWO WHAT HE HAD LEARNED.

3. COMMENT: NO OBJECTION TO THE GIST OF THIS CONVERSATION BEING  
PASSED TO DONOVAN IN CONNECTION WITH REFTEL REQUEST FOR DONOVAN  
TO INDICATE REASONS SHE WAS OPPOSED TO HUNGERS STRIKE. DONOVAN  
SHOULD, HOWEVER, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES REVEAL SUBSTANTIVE  
ASPECTS OF THE CONVERSATION IN ANY MESSAGE SHE SENDS HARCOS  
AND FLETCHER.  
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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